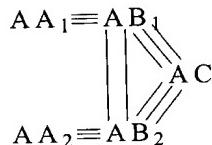


Claim 2 (Amended) A method of inhibiting osteoclastogenesis comprising the step of administering to a patient an amount of an inhibitor effective to inhibit osteoclastogenesis, wherein the inhibitor has the formula:



(I)

wherein:

AC is a peptide of 3-18 amino acid residues which corresponds in primary sequence to a binding loop of a TNF-R superfamily member, and which may optionally contain one or more amino acid substitutions, or an analogue thereof wherein at least one amide linkage is replaced with a substituted amide or an isostere of amide;

AB₁ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with one terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₂ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₁ ;

AB₂ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the second terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₁ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₂;

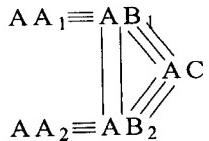
AA₁ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₂;

AA₂ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₁;

“=” is a covalent linkage; and

“≡” is a covalent linkage.

Claim 18 (Amended) A method of treating patients who have diseases characterized by bone loss comprising the step of administering to said patient an amount of an inhibitor effective to inhibit such bone loss, wherein said inhibitor is a compound having the formula:



(I)
wherein:

AC is a peptide of 3-18 amino acid residues which corresponds in primary sequence to a binding loop of a TNF-R superfamily member, and which may optionally contain one or more amino acid substitutions, or an analogue thereof wherein at least one amide linkage is replaced with a substituted amide or an isostere of amide;

AB₁ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with one terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₂ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₁;

AB₂ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the second terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₁ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₂;

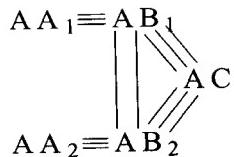
AA₁ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₁;

AA₂ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₂;

“=” is a covalent linkage; and

“≡” is a covalent linkage.

Claim 34 (Amended) A method of inhibiting bone resorption comprising the step of administering to a patient an amount of an inhibitor effective to inhibit bone resorption, wherein said inhibitor has the formula:



(I)

wherein:

AC is a peptide of 3-18 amino acid residues which corresponds in primary sequence to a binding loop of a TNF-R superfamily member, and which may optionally contain one or more amino acid substitutions, or an analogue thereof wherein at least one amide linkage is replaced with a substituted amide or an isostere of amide;

AB₁ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with one terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₂ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₁;

AB₂ is a moiety having a first functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the second terminus of AC, a second functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AB₁ and a third functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with AA₂;

AA₁ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₂;

AA₂ is a moiety having hydrophobic properties and a functional group capable of forming a covalent linkage with the third functional group of AB₂;

"=" is a covalent linkage; and

"≡" is a covalent linkage.

REMARKS

Status of the claims

Claims 1-48 are pending.

Claims 1-48 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 17, and 31-33 have been cancelled without prejudice.